

BOWSER IS LOST.

But He Turns Up Again to Explain Things.

At 5 minutes to 8 o'clock the other evening, Mrs. Bowser began listening for the foot-steps of Mr. Bowser. An umbrella mender came along, but his voice was different. The agent of a soap warranted to prevent clothes from wearing out rang the basement bell, but Mr. Bowser came not. A tramp called and asked for a dime to help him to South America with, but the old familiar footstep sounded not. Six o'clock and no Mr. Bowser. The winter winds moaned mournfully and Mr. Bowser thought of the dead killed by street cars and autos. A quarter after 8 and the cook came upstairs to say that she had seen many mysterious in her life, but none to compare with this. Was the Black Hand in it? Had Mr. Bowser received threatening letters and refused to come down with the dough?



C. MRS. BOWSER, EH?

Six-thirty, and no step and no Bowser. The morning of the wind thickened. So did the plot. It was just possible that Mr. Bowser had called a street car conductor a liar, and that both had got off the car to have it out, but if not that what could it be? At 7 o'clock Mrs. Bowser went down to dinner alone, but she had no appetite. She sat at table and thought of how she might have saved on the gas and coal—how late had paid 23 cents for stockings when she could have made the 22 cent ones do, and presently she found tears streaming down her cheeks. She loved Mr. Bowser, but until that moment she had not realized how much. The cook came in and by way of comfort said she had a brother who failed to come home one night, and after three days' search he was found in the rear room of a cigar store. He had gone there and made a kick about his three-for-fives and they had saved his head off. Depend upon it, Mr. Bowser was lying somewhere with his head separated from his body. Never more would he come home to kick the front gate open.

At 7:15 o'clock Mrs. Bowser went upstairs and called police headquarters on the telephone. The reply was: "No, no murders have been reported, but we are expecting one every minute. Will call you up later." At 7:30 the call came. An old woman had been run over by a brewery wagon—a boy had shot himself in the hand—a married man had eloped—an old gentleman had broken his neck while trying to bow to a chorus girl in the street, but nothing to explain the Bowser mystery. "Did he get swizzled now and then?" "Was his a happy home?" "Had she, Mrs. Bowser, called him a liar just as he was leaving home that morning?" "Had she any suspicions that he was struck on some other woman?" "Had he seemed off his head for a few days past?" Mrs. Bowser answered the above questions and then sat down and wept. She had been pretty good, but she could have been better to Mr. Bowser. For instance, when he wanted to buy a chicken farm, it was her duty to have been enthusiastic about it, instead of figuring out that he was bound to lose \$2,000 a year. His mangled remains were being hidden by the falling snow, now, and her conscience was crying out. Eight o'clock, and no Bowser. The cook came upstairs and said that she once had a sister who started out to buy a 49 cent corset and was missing for months and months. Finally a man about to be hanged for murder confessed that he had decoyed the woman into a cooper shop to get a glass of soda, and that while she was drinking it and exclaiming "yum yum!" between swallows he struck her seven blows with a five-cent tack hammer, and then sold her body for a mummy. Could Mr. Bowser be noticed? Did he ever drink soda water? If he saw a blow from a tack hammer coming could he sidestep it? Would anybody buy him for a mummy if he was dead? Half-past eight, and the strain was becoming intense. Nine o'clock, and the police telephoned that a man had just leaped from the forty-eighth story of a skyscraper and that his remains had been picked up in a hat. It was supposed to be a case of unrequited love. Might or might not be Mr. Bowser—that did she think? Half-past nine, and Mrs. Bowser called up the family doctor on the telephone. "Yes, this is Dr. Sokem. What's wanted? Who is it? Oh, Mrs. Bowser, eh. Well, has Bowser started for the North Pole yet? Hasn't come home this evening and you are worried. Don't you go into fits over Bowser. Never can tell what he'll do next, you know. Dead? Nonsense! He'll come home all right and explain things. May have stopped somewhere to look at a flying machine. Good-night." Ten o'clock, and no Bowser. The wind was now moaning like a lost soul. Mrs. Bowser listened to it and wished she had driven the poor man from home. They probably were, and Mrs. Bowser wept and resolved never to pay over 7 cents for another handkerchief. Eleven o'clock by the booming bells, it had been a night of terrible anxiety. One-two—three boomed the bells, and the cook who had been asleep on the kitchen table came up to go to her room and wanted to say: "If he's dead then he is dead and we can't help it. Let us hope that he perished happy, and that his last thought was of us." Half-past 11, and something bulky fell against the front door and pawed around. Why keep the world on tenterhooks? It was Mr. Bowser. With a great sigh of thankfulness Mrs. Bowser opened the door, reached out for a coat collar and then with a great jerk at it she announced: "Come in here, young man, and explain yourself!" Mr. Bowser came in. He made ralf fences through the sitting room, dropped into a chair, and after looking around the room in a vacant way, he asked: "Am I home?" "Yes." "Are you Mrs. Bowser?" "Yes." "Well, I'll tell you whasher mazzer. I joined club tonight. New club. Club called 'Shober Old Dubs.' Over 40 shober dubs there, and I never had shob much fun in my life. Mrs. Bowser, if you was only Shober Old Dub I'd have you join. Would fr a fack. I wanted to come home, but they wouldn't let me. They stood me on my head when I wanted to come home. Was you crying fr me, Mrs. Bowser?" "We'll talk this over in the morning," said Mrs. Bowser in severe tones. "But why not talk it over tonight, when I'm perfectly shober? I may not be in 'er morning. Mrs. Bowser, is that our front door out zhere?" "Of course." "And does it know me?" "It ought to."

"Then why did it strike at me and tell me to go way back when I come home?" Mr. Bowser was assisted up stairs and to bed, and when morning came and Mrs. Bowser started to say something he cut her off with: "The next time I am out late buying real estate don't make a ninny of yourself and add two or three dollars to the gas bill. When I came up in the taxi I thought the house was on fire." Copyrighted, 1910, by Associated Literary Press.)



Safest.

Tall Chappy—"I am deucedly superstitious. When I see my taller coming I cross my fingers so he won't ask me for his bill." Short Chappy—"I-I generally cross the street."

Well! Well!! Tom—What a beautiful bouquet you have in your lap. Tess—I beg your pardon, but that's my hat. Stranger (in Drearyhurst)—Is there any place in this town where I can get something to drink? Uncle Welby Gosh—Yes, sir, unless you're mighty blamed hard to please. There's four towns, pumps, a sulphur well an' half a dozen places where you kin git root beer.—Chicago Tribune.

"Yes," said the great man, "there was a time when I longed to be famous, but that is a thing of the past. Why has fame lost its attractions for you?" "We asked, 'This morning,' answered the g. m., 'I smoked a cigar that was named after me.'—Chicago News.



"FELL AGAINST THE FRONT DOOR AND PAWED AROUND."

LODGE MEETINGS NEXT WEEK IN TOPEKA

Central Sash & Door Co. QUICK SHIPPERS. Sash, Doors, Blinds, Mouldings, Glass, Stair Work and House Furnishings. Send in Your Plans for Estimates. We Will Save Freight Bills!

Henry Bennett GENERAL CONTRACTOR 914 King St. Ind. Phone 2615 Red

THE JACKSON-WALKER COAL & MATERIAL CO. BUILDING MATERIAL OF ALL KINDS. Selenite, Hard Wall Plasters, Iowa Portland Cement. 807 Kansas Ave. Both Phones

Use G. C. C. for Sore Throats NATIONAL CHEMICAL CO. 933 Kansas Ave., Topeka, Kansas.

Topeka Planing Mill Sash, Doors, Interior Finish, Screens, Frames and General Mill Work. Your Patronage Solicited. J. M. READ, Proprietor. 221 Kansas Ave. Ind. Phone 497.

McClure Bros. Wall Paper, Painting and Interior Decorating. Ind. Phone 593. Res. Bell 2935. 924 N. Kan. Ave.

Central Paper Co. 223-225 Kansas Ave. Topeka, Kan. Headquarters for COTTO WAXO Best Floor Sweep on the market. Try it.

R. B. Pope CARPENTER & BUILDER. Estimates Made on all Work. 903 Clay Street. Ind. 2889 White.

Cook & Son Carpenters and Builders Job Work Attended to Promptly. Prices Reasonable. Shop 110 W. 6th St. Ind. Phones Shop 1558 Res. 2957-1.

J. A. McGiffin GENERAL CONTRACTOR 208 West 7th Street. Ind. 1295-3

J. B. Betts GENERAL CONTRACTOR 1029 North Quincy St. Ind. Phone 1029

C. W. Noel GENERAL CONTRACTOR 1716 Topeka Ave. Ind. Phone 2232 Blue.

Gilmore Construction Co. CONTRACTORS FOR SEWERS, PAVING, GRADING, WATERWORKS, CONCRETE CONSTRUCTIONS OF ALL KINDS. Office 1500 Kansas Ave. Ind. Phone 701.

Rinner & Warren TILE, SLATE, TIN, TAR AND GRAVEL ROOFING, GALVANIZED IRON AND COPPER CORNICE. 327 Kansas Ave. Ind. Phone 762

W. W. Gillespie FRESCO PAINTER. 210 West Seventh St. Ind. Phone 955. Bell 376.

Douglas & Evans GENERAL CONTRACTORS 36-37 Keith Block. Ind. Phone 691.

Baughman Bros. Make a Specialty of Supplying Lodges With Pure ICE CREAM. 23rd and Lincoln Sts. Both Phones 253

John Ritchie GENERAL CONTRACTOR Paving, Sewer and Water Systems 1104 Quincy St. Phone 2767 White

Ed. LITTLE Machine and Model Work. Bicycle Repairing. 109 E. 5th. Opposite Postoffice. Ind. 804.

T. W. Wadsworth Cement Building Blocks and Posts 441 Poplar St. Ind. Phone 1953-3

White Sewing Machines and Phonos 1485 Talking Machines and Records 833 Kas. Ave.

H. W. Bomgardner FUNERAL DIRECTOR AND LICENSED EMBALMER Masonic Temple 621 Jackson Street I ATTEND TO ALL THE DETAILS First Class Ambulance Service Both Phones 146

Sunday Y. M. C. A. and every day at corner 9th and Quincy. Y. W. C. A. and every day, 2nd Floor Masonic Bldg. 623 Jackson. Socialist Meeting—at 119 West Sixth, upstairs, at 2:30 p. m. Every Sunday.

Monday K. of P.—Valent Lodge No. 155, at 122 East 6th ave. K. of P.—Amity Lodge No. 331 at 337 North Kansas ave. F. O. E.—Topeka Aeris No. 58 at 615 Van Buren.

K. and L. of Security—Victor Council No. 4, at 1092 North Kansas ave. I. O. Red Men—Shawnee Tribe No. 14, at 118 East 6th ave. S. & D. of Justice—Topeka Council No. 5, at Security hall. Fraternal Brotherhood—Topeka Lodge No. 311, at 119 West 6th ave. Fraternal Union of A—Topeka Lodge No. 522, at 522 Kansas ave. Hod Carriers and Building Laborers Local No. 387, at 818 Kansas ave. Geo. Hagen, secy., 606 East 17th. Painters Local—No. 96 at 420 Kansas ave., secretary Frank P. Woodruff, 617 Hancock st.

1st Battery at 404-406 Kansas ave. The Swedish American National League and Norden Benefit Association meets second and fourth, Monday of each month. Fred Isaacson, 157 Grattan street, recorder.

Tuesday I. O. O. F.—Shawnee Lodge No. (1) at 117 West 6th ave. K. & L. of Security—Shawnee Council No. 3 at 831 North Kansas ave. Triple Tie B. A.—Topeka Council No. 9, at Lincoln Post Hall. K. & L. of Security—Capital Council No. 1 at Security hall. M. W. of A.—Sunflower Camp No. 536, at 123 West 6th ave. Knights Protected Ark—Capital Ark No. 60, at 122 East 6th ave. Owls—Topeka Nest No. 10, at 110 East 6th ave. Fraternal Aid Ass't.—Topeka Council No. 2, at Security hall. Topeka Oratorio Soc.—At 107 East 8th ave. Moulders Union—Local No. 424, at 618 Kansas ave. Secretary, G. L. Whitlock 701 Clay. Triple Tie Benefit Association, Topeka Council No. 9, meets every Tuesday night in Lincoln Post Hall. U. B. of Carpenters—Local No. 1445 at 618 Kansas ave. Secretary S. J. Crume, 1402 E 8th st.

K. T.—Topeka Commandery No. 5, at Masonic hall. O. E. S. Helena Chapel No. 210, meets first and third Tuesday at Masonic Hall, North Kansas ave., M. S. Ogden, Sec. K. & L. of Honor—Eureka Lodge No. 2843, at 218 West 6th ave. Ladies' of the Grand Army—Lincoln Circle No. 1, at 118 East 6th ave, at 2:30 p. m. W. R. C. No. 94 for Topeka Post at 218 West 6th ave. Colored A. F. & A. M.—Mount Moriah Lodge No. 5 at 404 Kansas ave.

Wednesday I. O. O. F.—Topeka Lodge No. 40, at 117 West 6th ave. A. O. U. W.—Capital Lodge No. 3, at 122 East 6th ave. B. P. O. E.—Topeka Lodge at 204, corner 7th and Jackson. A. O. U. W.—Star Lodge No. 20, at 831 North Kansas ave. Degree of Honor—Excelsior Lodge No. 61, at K. P. Hall. K. O. T. M.—Capital City Tent No. 24, at 119 West 6th ave. K. and L. of Security—Topeka Council No. 2, at Security hall. Fraternal Aid—Shawnee Council No. 1, at 1002 North Kansas ave. Court of Honor—Shawnee District Court No. 515, at 123 West 6th ave. National Protective Legion—Topeka Lodge No. 2187, at E. of P. hall. Operative Plasterers—Local No.—at 10-11 Office Bldg., E. L. Newberry, Secy., 201 Burr St.

A. F. & A. M.—Topeka Lodge No. 17, at Masonic hall. L. O. T. M.—Topeka Progressive Hive No. 26, at 118 East 6th ave. S. of V.—Old Abe Camp No. 18 at 218 West 6th ave. G. U. O. of O. F.—Shawnee Lodge No. 1923 at 418 Kansas ave. Colored K. T.—Cyrene Commandery, No. 3, at 404 Kansas ave.

Thursday A. O. U. W.—Irwin Lodge No. 260, at 119 West 6th ave. A. O. U. W.—Lindale Lodge No. 299, at (Shorey). B. O. of Beavers—Dam No. 1, at 418 Kansas ave. M. W. of A.—Shawnee Camp No. 2800 at 123 West 6th ave. M. W. of A.—North Topeka Camp No. 1243 at 1002 North Kansas ave. I. O. Red Men—Wampanoa Tribe No. 92, at 831 North Kansas ave. Sons of Herman—Eintracht Lodge No. 6, at 323 Kansas ave. Triple Tie B. A.—Topeka Council No. 9, at 118 East 6th ave. I. J. B. & M.—Local No. 5, at 416 Kansas ave. Secy. G. M. Williams, 913 North Tyler. I. A. of Secy. Cutters—Local No.—at 618 Kansas ave. Secy. S. C. Harris, 326, East 17th ave. A. F. & A. M.—Shoam Lodge No. 225, at Masonic hall. I. O. O. F.—Canton, Topeka No. 3, P. M. Degree, at 119 West 6th. L. O. T. M.—Topeka Hive No. 14, at Security hall at 3 p. m. C. M. B. A.—St. Patrick's Branch No. 5, at 117 West 6th ave. Degree of Pochonats—Minerva Council No. 1, at 118 East 6th ave. Woodmen's Circle—Live Oak Grove No. 15, at 122 East 6th ave. Royal Neighbors—Shawnee Camp No. 1574, at 122 East 6th ave in p. m. Bollemakers & H.—Local No. 34 at 618 Kansas ave. Secy. W. L. A. Johnson, Bureau of Labor. Plumbers—Local No. 165, at 618 Kansas ave., Sec. M. E. Linton, 1715 Park ave. Wood W. & M. Lathers—Local No. 132, at 420 Kansas ave. Secy. J. G. Florence, 140 Kellam ave. G. A. R.—G. G. Gage Post No. 495, at 122 East 6th ave. Colored K. of P.—Excelsior Lodge No. 3 at 404 Kansas ave. Knights of Tabor (Colored) Sunnyside Temple No. 59, at 1300 Quincy.

Friday I. O. O. F.—Eugene Lodge No. 79, at 812 North Kansas ave. I. O. O. F.—Excelsior Lodge No. 620, at 117 West 6th ave. A. O. U. W.—Topeka Lodge No. 11, at 122 West 6th ave. A. O. U. W.—Upchurch Lodge No. 244, at 122 East 6th ave. K. O. T. M.—National Tent No. 19, at 831 North Kansas ave. K. & L. of Security—Columbia Council No. 50, at Security hall. B. O. of Beavers—Riverside Dam No. 3, at Railroad and Curtis sts. Royal Neighbors—Topeka Camp No. 145, at 119 West 6th ave. Royal Neighbors—Woodbine Camp No. 55, at 1002 North Kansas ave. Triple Tie B. A.—Home Council No. 44, at 118 East 6th ave. Fraternal Brotherhood—Oakland Lodge, No. 403 at cor. Wabash and Thomas. Mystic Circle—Cheops Ruling No. 1655, at Security hall. A. F. & A. M. Orient Lodge No. 51 at Masonic hall. Daughters of Herman—Martha Washington Lodge No. 2, at 322 Kansas ave. Scandinavian Benevolent Soc.—At 218 West 1st ave. North Topeka Civic Club—At 932 North Kansas ave. Colored G. A. R.—Fort Pillow Post No. 321, at 413 Kansas ave.

Saturday K. of P.—Topeka Lodge No. 38, at 122 West 6th ave. K. O. T. M.—Topeka Tent No. 18, at Security hall. Degree of Honor—Charity Lodge No. 26, at 831 North Kansas ave. Ry. Carmen—Local No. 4, at 613 Kansas ave. O. E. S. Beulah Chapter No. 34, at Masonic hall. Pythian Sisters—Capital Temple No. 2, at 122 East 6th ave. G. A. R.—Lincoln Post No. 1, at 118 East 6th ave. W. R. C.—No. 66 for G. G. Gage Post, at 122 East 6th ave.

Notice to Secretaries In case of omissions, change of date of meeting or location or errors in information, please notify the State Journal and same will be corrected.

W. G. Tandy Housemoving Contractor. Brick Stone and Wood Buildings Raised and Moved. 1613 Buchanan St. Ind. 887. Bell 883

J. L. Eddy CONTRACTOR 110 East 9th. Ind. Phone 1625. Repairing and Jobbing.

B. L. FRY GENERAL CONTRACTOR 918 Madison Street Ind. 2432 White.

When it is made by the Portland Cement Stone Co. you know it is good stone. We furnish blocks in pure white, gray, Colorado sand stone effect, or the well known block which has by its merits won its way to popular favor. Office, 625 Kan. Ave., Phone 533 Yard Foot of Madison. Phone 533-2.

John F. Stanton FORMER STATE ARCHITECT Bell Telephone 1015 Room 6, Smith Bldg. 9th and Kan. ave.

J. A. Nelson Stone and Brick Contractor 419 Taylor St. Ind. Phone 2942 Blue

Wm. F. Boettcher Galvanized Iron Cornice, Metal, Ceilings, Tin Roofing, etc., Peck & Williams' "Favorite" Furnaces, Combination Gas and Coal. 622 W. 6th St. Ind. Phone 1734

Topeka Employment Office Furnishes Help for Hotels—Cooks, Clerks, Waitresses, Kitchen Help, Farm Help and Laborers of All Kinds, Send us your order. R. J. KEARNEY, Mgr. 522 Kansas Ave. Ind. Phone 1458. Bell 1630.

MESSENGERS FURNISHED LIGHT EXPRESSING CALL 1082 Hasty Messenger & Express Co. 105 W. 6th St.

M. Council GENERAL CONTRACTOR 324-328 Vanburen St. Phone Bell 834

Louis Van Dorp GALVANIZED IRON CORNICE, TIN AND SLATE ROOFING, AUTO LAMPS REPAIRED. 507-9 Jackson St.

Henry E. Shuler GENERAL CONTRACTOR P. O. Box 227. Ind. Phone 2308-J.

PICADILLY! Wm. KLINGE & SON, Tailors Call and we will explain to you. 108-110 West Fifth Street

Metz & Harkness GENERAL CONTRACTORS 718 Lincoln St. 2762 Black Ind. Phones 2623 Black 2762 Black

J. G. Gist Brick and Stone Contractor 26 Office Building Ind. Phone 1977 White.

M. C. Plank GENERAL CONTRACTOR 533 Kansas Ave. Ind. Phone 1754.

Topeka Transfer and Storage Co. Packing, Moving, Storage. 406 E. 6th St. Both Phones 226

W. S. Isham Co. SHEET METAL SPECIALISTS. CONTRACTORS AND MANUFACTURERS Tin, Copper, Brass, Steel, Iron, Etc. Ind. Phone 430. Topeka, Kan. 519 E. 4th St.

A policy with the Knights Protected Ark Will give your widow an annual income for life.

A Saving Account of \$2.50 Per Month with the Aetna Building & Loan Association will net Five Hundred Dollars in 120 months. In the first place, it is an enforced savings of the amount deposited each month and in the next place the savings account bears a rate of interest of about 12 per cent per annum. No financial institution in the country offers a better investment. Call us THE AETNA BUILDING & LOAN ASSOCIATION Topeka, Kansas.

SEE MT. HOPE CEMETERY One and One-Half Miles West of Washburn College Most desirable location. High ground, laid out on best modern plans. Perpetual care provided for all lots. Concrete and cement vaults if wanted. Call at city office, 623 Kansas avenue, for information in detail. A. B. WHITING, President.

When it is made by the Portland Cement Stone Co. you know it is good stone. We furnish blocks in pure white, gray, Colorado sand stone effect, or the well known block which has by its merits won its way to popular favor. Office, 625 Kan. Ave., Phone 533 Yard Foot of Madison. Phone 533-2.

John F. Stanton FORMER STATE ARCHITECT Bell Telephone 1015 Room 6, Smith Bldg. 9th and Kan. ave.

J. A. Nelson Stone and Brick Contractor 419 Taylor St. Ind. Phone 2942 Blue

Wm. F. Boettcher Galvanized Iron Cornice, Metal, Ceilings, Tin Roofing, etc., Peck & Williams' "Favorite" Furnaces, Combination Gas and Coal. 622 W. 6th St. Ind. Phone 1734

Topeka Employment Office Furnishes Help for Hotels—Cooks, Clerks, Waitresses, Kitchen Help, Farm Help and Laborers of All Kinds, Send us your order. R. J. KEARNEY, Mgr. 522 Kansas Ave. Ind. Phone 1458. Bell 1630.

MESSENGERS FURNISHED LIGHT EXPRESSING CALL 1082 Hasty Messenger & Express Co. 105 W. 6th St.

M. Council GENERAL CONTRACTOR 324-328 Vanburen St. Phone Bell 834

Louis Van Dorp GALVANIZED IRON CORNICE, TIN AND SLATE ROOFING, AUTO LAMPS REPAIRED. 507-9 Jackson St.

Henry E. Shuler GENERAL CONTRACTOR P. O. Box 227. Ind. Phone 2308-J.

PICADILLY! Wm. KLINGE & SON, Tailors Call and we will explain to you. 108-110 West Fifth Street

Metz & Harkness GENERAL CONTRACTORS 718 Lincoln St. 2762 Black Ind. Phones 2623 Black 2762 Black

J. G. Gist Brick and Stone Contractor 26 Office Building Ind. Phone 1977 White.

M. C. Plank GENERAL CONTRACTOR 533 Kansas Ave. Ind. Phone 1754.

Topeka Transfer and Storage Co. Packing, Moving, Storage. 406 E. 6th St. Both Phones 226

W. S. Isham Co. SHEET METAL SPECIALISTS. CONTRACTORS AND MANUFACTURERS Tin, Copper, Brass, Steel, Iron, Etc. Ind. Phone 430. Topeka, Kan. 519 E. 4th St.

A policy with the Knights Protected Ark Will give your widow an annual income for life.

A Saving Account of \$2.50 Per Month with the Aetna Building & Loan Association will net Five Hundred Dollars in 120 months. In the first place, it is an enforced savings of the amount deposited each month and in the next place the savings account bears a rate of interest of about 12 per cent per annum. No financial institution in the country offers a better investment. Call us THE AETNA BUILDING & LOAN ASSOCIATION Topeka, Kansas.

SEE MT. HOPE CEMETERY One and One-Half Miles West of Washburn College Most desirable location. High ground, laid out on best modern plans. Perpetual care provided for all lots. Concrete and cement vaults if wanted. Call at city office, 623 Kansas avenue, for information in detail. A. B. WHITING, President.